

Claim 11, line 15, delete "automatically."

Claim 16, line 17, delete "automatically."

Claim 19, line 3, delete "predeterminaly," insert --
predeterminately--.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

On page 1, the information concerning the status of application Serial No. 921,268 has been updated by identifying U.S. Patent No. 4,853,514. The drawings and the detailed description which constitute the disclosure of the previous application Serial No. 921,268 are identical to the drawings and detailed description in the present application. Therefore, the present application is properly identified as a continuation rather than as a continuation-in-part application. Moreover, the claims in this application are all supported by the disclosure in the patent application Serial No. 921,263. Accordingly, this correction has been made in line 1 of page 2 of the application.

Each of the parent applications and its disposition has been identified in accord with the requirement by the Examiner.

Spelling clarifications have been made on pages 4, 6, 9, 15 and elsewhere in response to the critique of the Examiner.

In rejecting the claims under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, the Examiner commented that the specification was indefinite because the operation of manipulator 47' is not clear. The Examiner stated:

"How are units of work removed or placed on table 41 by manipulator 47' located in or exteriorly of chamber 12? The description on page 6 fails to set forth an adequate written description of the device."

Attached is a copy of applicant's earlier Patent No. 3,272,347 which discloses the kind of automatic manipulator that applicant had in mind when the text on page 6 of the specification was written. This Patent is based on an application filed by the applicant on January 14, 1963, which is prior to the earliest date (December 29, 1964) that applicant relies on in the present application. A parent application of the attached patent filed December 24, 1954, is now abandoned, and is referred to in the first paragraph of the attached Patent No. 3,272,347.

The joints in Applicant's prior manipulator articulate so that the jaws can move above table 41 as illustrated in the drawings of the application and units of work can be placed on and removed from table. The control of the automatic manipulator can be so limited that repeated movements can be generally along the same path at time intervals that are supplied by the automatic controller. The disclosure clearly outlines the work objective of the manipulator so that the claimed subject matter can be readily made and used without undue experimentation.

In response to the Examiner's reference to written description, applicant has amended page 6 of the specifications to make reference to applicant's original Patent No. 3,272,347 which

was reissued as Re. 26,904. The added description does not constitute new matter and makes reference to the state of the art at the time the present invention was made. Manifestly, if the chamber 12 is small relative to the size of the manipulator, the manipulator would be placed exteriorly of chamber 12 and the jaws 77 of Fig. 2 or jaws 97 of Fig. 2A allowed to enter the chamber 12 through the open door 12'. On the other hand, where the chamber 12 is large, the manipulator 47' of the present invention could be situated interiorly of the chamber 12 and the jaws manipulated to pass through the open door 12' for delivery of a finished work piece and for pick up of the next work piece. This is the meaning to a person skilled in the art of the text on page 6 of the specification as filed.

The foregoing mode of operation is implicit from the as-filed description. By the amendatory material added, there is provided what is believed to be an adequate written description of the device as claimed. No new matter or departure from the original disclosure has been added.

Page 23 of the specification has been amended by changing the reference numeral from 11 to 12 to correct an inadvertent error noted by the Examiner and to eliminate the confusion.

In view of the foregoing clarification and correction to the specification, the basis for the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph is believed to no longer exist and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-19 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The Examiner properly noted that the "third means" in line 17 of claim should have been "first means." This correction has been made.

The Examiner commented on the use of the terminology "automatically controlling" and "automatic manipulator" in claim 11, lines 11, 15 and 16 and in claim 16. Applicant has changed "automatically controlling" to be "controlling" by cancellation of the word "automatically" to eliminate this as an issue without conceding that there is inadequate support for the original claim terminology.

With respect to the terminology "automatic manipulator", it is intended to refer a non-manually controlled manipulator. A proper basis for its use is provided in the specification on page 6 at lines 25, 26 and the meaning is clear. That the control of the automatic manipulator 47' is automatic as opposed to manual is believed clear from the drawings as well as on pages 2, 6 and elsewhere throughout the specification. This is referred to in line 15 of Claim 11 and line 17 of original Claim 16.

The control of the operation of the radiation as specified in Claim 11, line 11 is not manual, but instead is under the influence of the master program controller or computer 11. This language clearly identifies what is being claimed. The claim in this aspect clearly points out and distinctly claims the subject matter which

applicant regards as his invention which is the requirement of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the claims all meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Early and favorable action on the application allowing Claims 1-19 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "A Donald Messenheimer". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and address.

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